

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 6 insert the following new paragraph between lines 16 and 17.

Figure 6 shows two graphs of compression and recoverability data for one possible embodiment of the present invention.

On page 8 please insert the following new paragraphs between lines 26 and 27.

A pre-cut, uniform sheet is made of staple fibers, i.e., specifically, the cubes of fibrous material 15 may be cut from a uniform blanket or sheet. That uniform sheet may be cut by any means known in the art. For example, the uniform sheet may be drawn in between a splitter unit, having multiple blades, and a guide roller. The splitter unit divides the sheet into strips of material. The strips of material are then fed in between a cutting roller, having multiple blades, and a guide roller where the strips of material are cut into individual pieces by the cutting roller. After the cutting process, the individual pieces of blanket are then laid down onto a forming chain and then bonded by heat and pressure.

As the pieces of blanket are compressed, they become randomly oriented as depicted in FIG. 4. While being subjected to heat and pressure, the bicomponent fibers from which the pieces of blanket are made are activated causing the fibers in the individual pieces to bond together forming a uniform blanket.

As a result of the random orientation of the pieces 15 in the blanket 19 the blanket 19 exhibits increased compressive resistance over a uniform blanket. As such, the blanket 19 is suitable for use in automotive undercarpet products or other applications where compressive resistance is important such as cushioning for seating. To better control compression of the polymer blanket 19, the individual pieces 15 may be arranged in a controlled pattern instead of a random orientation. Any pattern may be implemented.

FIG. 6 shows compression and recovery data of the present invention as compared to a uniform blanket. Graph 1 shows percent recovery (wet and dry) of a 68 gsf uniform blanket compared to a 1" 60 gsf cube and a 1" 45 gsf cube of the present invention. Graph 2 shows percent compression (wet and dry) of a 68 gsf uniform blanket compared to a 1" 60 gsf cube and a 1" 45 gsf cube of the present invention. The test method used is SAE J1352 "Compression and Recovery Method BC". As shown in FIG. 6, the cubed product of the present invention provides improved wet and dry compression over the uniform blanket.